

ABSTRACT

A process for producing powder, flakes, or pellets
5 containing α -sulfo fatty acid alkylester salt in high
concentrations, the process including: (1) a step of
preparing a paste containing α -sulfo fatty acid alkylester
salt by a series of reactions of sulfonating a fatty acid
alkylester with a sulfonating gas by contact with each other,
10 esterifying the sulfonated product with a lower alcohol,
neutralizing the esterified product, and bleaching the
neutralized product, to give a paste containing α -sulfo fatty
acid alkylester salt; (2) a step of aging the thus obtained
paste; (3) a step of making the aged paste into flakes or
15 pellets containing equal to or less than 10 wt% of water, or
a step of making the aged paste into flakes or pellets
containing equal to or less than 10 wt% of water and then
crushing the resulting flakes or pellets into a powder having
an average particle diameter of 100-1500 μm ; and (4) a step
20 of aging the powder, flakes, or pellets.